## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

PRESERVE OUR ISLANDS, a Washington Non-profit Corporation; PEOPLE FOR PUGET SOUND, a Washington Non-profit Corporation; WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL, a Washington Non-profit Corporation;

NO. C08-1353-RSM

Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, et

Defendants,

and

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NORTHWEST AGGREGATES COMPANY,

Defendant-Intervenors.

DECLARATION OF KATHY FLETCHER IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR FEES AND EXPENSES

I, KATHY FLETCHER, declare as follows:

1. I am the executive director for plaintiff People for Puget Sound ("PPS") and am competent to testify in this matter. This declaration is offered in support of plaintiffs'

DECLARATION OF KATHY FLETCHER (C08-1353-RSM)- 1

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2728

motion for attorneys fees and expenses pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. §2412. The information in this declaration is based on my personal knowledge.

- 2. PPS is a qualified "party" pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2412(d)(2)(B). PPS is a federal 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. PPS also has a net worth of less than \$7,000,000 and employs less than 500 people.
- 3. As we prepared to move forward with this litigation, we recognized that we would need attorneys with exceptional legal skills, experience and knowledge of both NEPA and the ESA in order to prevail. We recognized also that due to the extensive administrative record spanning several years that we would need somebody with a solid understanding of the history and facts and the ability to efficiently review and understand the record. Because of his extensive experience and solid legal reputation local community we retained David Mann of Gendler & Mann, LLP, to represent us. I believe Mr. Mann is one of the only local Seattle area attorneys that was both qualified and willing to handle this complex matter for us.
- 4. I understand that the base rate for attorneys' fees under EAJA is \$125 per hour. I do not believe it is possible to find a local attorney in the Seattle area with the necessary skills and experience to handle litigation like this case at anywhere near that rate.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

DECLARATION OF KATHY FLETCHER (C08-1353-RSM)- 3

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